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comprises routing instructions for routing the call to a predetermined destination
that implements the preferred language; and

(h) routing the call to the predetermined destination based on the routing information.

AS
25. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving information from
a user that identifies a language preference that is to be associated with the calling telephone
station, prior to (a).

26. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving information from
a user at the calling telephone station that identifies a language preference that is to be associated
with the calling telephone station, prior to (a).

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claim 14 was objected to because it depended from itself. Claims 14-19 have been amended to correct the claim from which these claims depend. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 14 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 11-14, 17-22, and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Norman et al. Claims 1, 13, 20, and 22 have been amended to clarify that in these claims the language preference is selected by a user. This feature is not disclosed in Norman et al. The only disclosure of a language choice in Norman et al. states that a language is chosen based upon the calling party identifier, such as the calling party's area code. (Col. 2, lines 42-50 and col. 8, lines 28-39.) The calling party identifier is not a language preference that is selected by a user. Therefore, Claims 1, 13, 20, and 22, and all of the claims that depend from these claims, are patentable for at least this reason.

With respect to claim 13, in addition to the reasons stated above, this claim is also patentable over Norman et al. because Norman et al. does not disclose several features of this claim. For example, this claim recites generating a query in response to a terminating attempt trigger that is activated upon receipt of the call and transmitting the query to a processor. This claim also recites a processor that is operable to perform several functions. Norman et al. does not disclose any of these features.

With respect to claim 20, in addition to the reasons stated above, this claim is also patentable over Norman et al. because Norman et al. does not disclose several features of this claim. For example, this claim recites computer readable program code for performing several different functions, which is not disclosed by Norman et al.

With respect to claim 22, in addition to the reasons stated above, this claim is also patentable over Norman et al. because Norman et al. does not disclose several features of this claim. For example, this claim recites generating a terminating attempt trigger, transmitting a query to a processor, using a processor to perform certain functions, and using predetermined logic to perform certain functions. Norman et al. does not disclose any of these features.

With respect to Claims 2-6, 11-12, 17-19, 21, and 25-26, each of these claims recites features in addition to those in the base claims. For each of these claims, the examiner asserted that the same portions of Norman et al. (col. 2, lines 42-50 and col. 8, lines 28-39) disclose each of the additional features of these claims. However, the cited portions of Norman et al. do not disclose any of these additional features. For example, claim 2 recites that a query is transmitted from a switch to a processor, yet the portions of Norman et al. cited by the examiner do not disclose a query in general or transmitting a query from a switch to a processor. Accordingly, these claims are patentable for these reasons, as well.

Claims 7-8, 15, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) as being unpatentable over Norman et al. in view of Caccuro et al. Applicants submit that there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the teachings of Norman et al. and Caccuro et al., as suggested by the Examiner, and the proposed combination is the result of nothing more than using the claimed invention as a blueprint to pick-and-choose isolated elements from the prior art. Accordingly, Claims 7-8, 15, and 23 are patentable over the proposed combination for this reason alone. Even if Norman et al. and Caccuro et al. could be properly combined, because Claims 7-8, 15, and 23 depend from Claims 1, 13, and 22, they are patentable for at least the reasons stated above.

Claims 9-10, 16, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) as being unpatentable over Norman et al. in view of Khuc et al. Applicants submit that there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the teachings of Norman et al. and Khuc et al., as suggested by the Examiner, and the proposed combination is the result of nothing more than using the claimed invention as a blueprint to pick-and-choose isolated elements from the prior art. Accordingly, Claims 9-10, 16, and 24 are patentable over the proposed combination for this reason alone. Even if Norman et al. and Khuc et al. could be properly combined, because Claims 9-10, 16, and 24 depend from Claims 1, 13, and 22, they are patentable for at least the reasons stated above.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

1. (Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling telephone station, the method comprising:

(a) storing an indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station after a user selects a language preference;

[(a)] (b) generating a query in response to a terminating attempt trigger that is activated upon receipt of the call;

[(b)] (c) accessing [an] the indication of [a] the language preference [that is associated with the calling telephone station] in response to the query; and

[(c)] (d) providing routing information based on the indication of the language preference.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [(a)] (b) further comprises transmitting the query from a switch to a processor.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [(b)] (c) further comprises performing a database lookup.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [(c)] (d) further comprises providing routing information based upon predetermined logic instructions.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [(c)] (d) further comprises transmitting the routing information from a processor to a switch.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

[(d)] (e) routing the call to a predetermined destination in response to the routing information.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein [(d)] (e) comprises routing the call to a predetermined interactive voice response unit in response to the routing information.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein [(d)] (e) comprises routing the call to a predetermined call center in response to the routing information.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 1, [further comprising, prior to] wherein (a) further comprises, storing an indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station in a database.

12. (Amended) The method of claim 1, [further comprising, prior to] wherein (a) further comprises, storing an indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station in a line information database.

13. (Amended) A system for processing a call from a calling telephone station, the system comprising:

a terminating switch operable to receive a call that originated from the calling telephone station, generate a query in response to a terminating attempt trigger that is activated upon receipt of the call, and transmit the query to a processor; and

a processor coupled with the terminating switch, the processor being operable to access [a stored indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station] an indication of a language preference, that is associated with the calling telephone station and that was stored after a user selected a language preference, in response to the receipt of the query transmitted from the terminating switch, wherein the indication of the language preference identifies a preferred language for transmitting information to the calling telephone station, and the processor being operable to provide routing information in response to the indication of the

language preference, wherein the routing information comprises routing instructions for routing the call to a predetermined destination that implements the preferred language.

14. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, further comprising an originating switch coupled with the terminating switch, the originating switch being operable to receive the call from the calling telephone station and route the call to the terminating switch.

15. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, further comprising an interactive voice response unit coupled with the calling telephone station, wherein the interactive voice response unit implements the preferred language.

16. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, further comprising a call center coupled with the calling telephone station, wherein the call center implements the preferred language.

17. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, wherein the processor comprises a service control point.

18. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, wherein the processor comprises predetermined logic instructions.

19. (Amended) The system of claim [14] 13, wherein the terminating switch comprises a service switching point.

20. (Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for processing a call from a calling telephone station, the computer readable program code comprising:

a first computer readable program code for causing a first computer to access [a stored indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station] an indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station that was stored after a user selected a language preference, in response to the receipt of a query, wherein

the indication of the language preference identifies a preferred language for transmitting announcements to the calling telephone station, and wherein the query is generated in response to a terminating attempt trigger that is activated in response to the receipt of the call; and

a second computer readable program code for causing a second computer to provide routing information in response to the indication of the language preference, wherein the routing information comprises routing instructions for routing the call to a predetermined destination that implements the preferred language.

22. (Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling telephone station, the method comprising:

- (a) storing an indication of a language preference that is associated with the calling telephone station after a user selects a language preference, wherein the indication of the language preference identifies a preferred language for communicating with the calling telephone station;
- (b) receiving, at an originating switch, a call from the calling telephone station;
- (c) routing the call from the originating switch to a terminating switch;
- (d) generating a terminating attempt trigger, using the terminating switch, in response to [(d)] (c);
- (e) transmitting a query from the terminating switch to a processor in response to the terminating attempt trigger;
- (f) accessing the indication of the language preference, using the processor, in response to the query;
- (g) providing routing information, using predetermined logic instructions, in response to the indication of the language preference, wherein the routing information

comprises routing instructions for routing the call to a predetermined destination that implements the preferred language; and

(h) routing the call to the predetermined destination based on the routing information.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving information from a user that identifies a language preference that is to be associated with the calling telephone station, prior to (a).

26. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving information from a user at the calling telephone station that identifies a language preference that is to be associated with the calling telephone station, prior to (a).